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International Bureau

## INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

<b>(51) International Patent Classification <sup>7</sup> :</b> <b>G11B 20/18</b>	<b>A1</b>	<b>(11) International Publication Number:</b> <b>WO 00/54274</b>  <b>(43) International Publication Date:</b> 14 September 2000 (14.09.00)												
<b>(21) International Application Number:</b> PCT/JP99/04889 <b>(22) International Filing Date:</b> 8 September 1999 (08.09.99)  <b>(30) Priority Data:</b> 11/59781                      8 March 1999 (08.03.99)                      JP  <b>(71) Applicant:</b> MATSUSHITA ELECTRIC INDUSTRIAL CO., LTD. (JP/JP); 1006, Oaza Kadoma, Kadoma-shi, Osaka 571-8501 (JP).  <b>(72) Inventors:</b> ITO, Motoshi; 17-25-302, Fumichi 3-chome, Joto-ku, Osaka-shi, Osaka 536-0001 (JP). UEDA, Hiroshi; 4-3426, Gotenyama Minamimachi, Hirakata-shi, Osaka 573-1193 (JP). GOTOH, Yoshiho; 5-1-3, Higashinakuhama, Joto-ku, Osaka-shi, Osaka 536-0023 (JP). FUKUSHIMA, Yoshihisa; 14-C-508, Sekime 6-chome, Joto-ku, Osaka-shi, Osaka 536-0008 (JP).  <b>(74) Agent:</b> YAMAMOTO, Shusaku; 15th floor, Crystal Tower, 2-27, Shiromi 1-chome, Chuo-ku, Osaka-shi, Osaka 540-6015 (JP).		<b>(81) Designated States:</b> CN, ID, KR, MX.  Published <i>With international search report.</i>												
<b>(54) Title:</b> INFORMATION RECORDING MEDIUM, INFORMATION RECORDING METHOD, INFORMATION RECORDING APPARATUS AND INFORMATION REPRODUCING APPARATUS														
<div style="margin-bottom: 10px;"> <span style="margin: 0 20px;">22a</span> <span style="margin: 0 20px;">22b</span> <span style="margin: 0 20px;">22c</span> </div> <table border="1" style="margin: auto; border-collapse: collapse; text-align: center;"> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Status</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">Location of defective sector</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">Reserved (=0)</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">Location of replacement sector</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="4" style="height: 20px;"> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"> <span>22a-1</span> <span>22a-2</span> </div> </td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Flag</td> <td colspan="3" style="padding: 5px;">Reserved (=0)</td> </tr> </table>			Status	Location of defective sector	Reserved (=0)	Location of replacement sector	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"> <span>22a-1</span> <span>22a-2</span> </div>				Flag	Reserved (=0)		
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<b>(57) Abstract</b>  An information recording medium of the present invention includes: a volume space in which user data is recorded; a spare area including a replacement area which may be used in place of a defective area included in the volume space; and a defect management information area in which defect management information for managing the defective area is recorded. The defect management information includes status information indicating whether the defective area is replaced by the replacement area.														